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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28, 1869.

THE INFLUENCE OF OFFICE-HOLDERS

IN NATIONAL POLITICS.

THE Constitution of the United States declares that "no Senator or Representative, or person holding an office of trust or profit under the United States, shall be appointed an elector." The obvious intent of this clause is to prevent persons officially connected with the National Government from exercising undue influence in Presidential elections. It is evident, however, that this end cannot be obtained without much additional legislation and a radical change in the existing partisan machinery. The framers of the Constitution seem to have anticipated that the electors would exercise unrestricted judgment in the choice of a President and Vice-President, whereas they have practically become mere automatons, casting their votes invariably for the candidates nominated by national conventions. These conventions do the work which the founders of the republic had allotted to the Electoral College; and instead of this work being beyond the influence of Senators, Congressmen, and national office-holders, they usually control it. The partisan system prevailing before national conventions were organized was even worse than the present one, for under it Presidential candidates were chosen by Congressional caucuses. The conventions were first devised mainly for the purpose of preventing men in office from perpetuating their power, but as this object is only attained in a very imperfect degree, it is evident that a much more drastic change will be necessary to give the people full liberty to select their Presidents without the interference of the official servants who so often aspire to become the virtual masters of the nation.

In England it is the universal custom, we believe, for all persons who hold subordinate offices to abstain strictly from active interference in partisan movements, and so far is this idea carried that the employees of the Post Office Department are not even allowed to vote at the elections for members of Parliament. In this country the active influence of office-holders in partisan movements was also formerly resisted, but it now seems to be distinctly understood between Congressmen and Senators and the persons whose claims to office they endorse, that the recipients of public patronage shall actively exert themselves not only to secure the re-election, from time to time, of their patrons, but to have their delegates as they select appointed to local, State, and national conventions. Of all the agencies employed to secure the re-nomination of common-place or incompetent men, none is so powerful as this lever of patronage. There is scarcely an appointee who is not as much impressed with the necessity of promoting the aspirations of his patron, as best he can, in nominating conventions, as with the importance of attention to his legitimate public duties. The leading national office-holders, with all their subordinates, feel bound, as a rule, to promote the re-nomination of the President from whom they obtained their commissions, while the postmaster and revenue officers of each district actively endeavor to secure the re-nomination of the Congressman who was their servile friend at Washington. As these official forces are all well drilled, and as they usually lack neither the time nor the disposition to concentrate their efforts in the most effective manner, their aggregate influence is well-nigh overwhelming, and it is only on rare occasions that the people are unable to resist their machinations.

From this system manifold evils arise. Congressmen are much more apt to endorse the claims of such applicants for appointments as will prove useful to them individually, than to recommend the men who are most competent and who would be most useful to the country. The office-holders, in turn, work for the re-nomination of their friends rather than for the elevation of the candidates who are best fitted to represent their respective districts in the councils of the nation. The people, in many instances, suffer a double loss, in having incompetent officials as well as incompetent Representatives or Senators fastened upon them. These evils are constantly increasing in magnitude, and it will be difficult to resist them, unless something like the English system is established in this country, and the rule imperatively laid down that office-holders shall not be allowed to influence the action of either Congressional, State, or national conventions.

THE ENGLISH BUDGET.

By the late mails from England we have the details of the speech delivered by Mr. Lowe, the Chancellor of the Exchequer under the Gladstone Government, on the presentation of the first budget of the new Liberal Ministry. The estimated receipts of the current fiscal year are as follows:

Customs	£22,400,000
Excise	20,400,000
Stamps	9,500,000
Property Tax	9,500,000
Post Office	8,500,000
Crown Lands	8,500,000
Taxes	3,500,000
Miscellaneous	2,000,000
	£73,800,000

Excluding the amount still owing on account of the Abyssinian war, which is properly regarded in the light of an extraordinary expense, the following statement gives the estimated expenditures for the year:

Interest on Debt	£24,700,000
Consolidated Fund Charge	1,700,000
Army	14,200,000
Navy	9,900,000
Miscellaneous Estimates	9,500,000
Revenue Department	4,575,000
Packet Service	1,000,000
	£65,575,000

Reduced to the American standard, the revenue amounts to \$352,518,200, and the expenditures to \$380,100,320, leaving a balance of \$27,618,880. The amount of indebtedness still outstanding on account of the Abyssinian war reaches \$4,000,000, or \$23,264,000, which will leave a net balance at the end of the year of only \$144,880. This is certainly a saving very close to the wind, but the Liberal Ministry is compelled to run the risk for the sake of making capital with the people by as heavy reductions in taxation as is possible. But even this result is to be achieved at the expense of a little trickery. About \$3,000,000 are to be obtained by

calling in the long credit heretofore given for assessed taxes; about \$4,750,000 by hastening the collection of the land and inhabited-house tax, so as to receive within the financial year full half of the amount which falls beyond it; and about \$9,000,000 by hastening in the same manner the collection of the income tax. In this way \$16,750,000 more than usual is to be received from the people during the first year; but while this serves to swell the resources of the treasury, and to give a large margin for the remission of taxation, it affords no permanent relief to the people, since they will merely be compelled hereafter to pay this \$16,750,000 into the treasury six months before the usual time.

Mr. Lowe proposes to make the best possible use of his margin in the way of remitting unpopular and oppressive taxes, as a compensation for compelling the people to hasten by half a year the payment of such a good round sum. There is still left a shilling duty upon grain, yielding about \$4,500,000, which the Chancellor of the Exchequer has repeatedly attacked because of its injustice to the poor, and the obstructions which it imposes upon commerce. Mr. Lowe proposes to abolish this, and, as the result, to constitute the ports of Great Britain the great grain centres of the west of Europe.

The fire insurance duty, yielding about \$4,000,000, it is also proposed to remit, as well as about \$2,100,000 of assessed taxes, and one penny on the rate of the income tax, thus reducing the latter to 6d. But it is expected that there will be a considerable decrease in the expense of collecting the revenue, and with this fact in view it is estimated that the total sacrifice of annual revenue by the above remissions will not exceed \$15,000,000, not quite all of which will affect the revenue of the current year, the remainder going to swell the small estimated balance.

THE GROWTH OF ST. LOUIS.

ONE of the founders and Mayors of St. Louis died recently at the age of 79. It would have been scarcely possible in any other country for the founder of a town to live long enough to see its population expand to a quarter of a million of souls. The growth of St. Louis, however, affords a more remarkable illustration of the progress of the commercial centres of the Great West than any other city except Chicago. It was originally selected as the site of an Indian trading post, more than a hundred years ago, but for a long period population increased so slowly that in 1804 it contained less than 2000 souls, and in 1820 the number of inhabitants was only 4508. In 1823 it was first chartered as a city, and for a time it still continued to progress slowly, the population rising to only 6604 in 1830, and to 16,400 in 1840. The first great stride was in the decade between 1840 and 1850, the population in the latter year reaching 77,850, of whom nearly one-third were born in Germany. The increase from 1850 to 1860 was less rapid, but it nevertheless reached the aggregate of 151,780 in the latter year, and although progress was arrested in the early portion of the present decade by the fearful civil war then raging in Missouri, the growth of that State and its metropolis since the suppression of the Rebellion has been so rapid that St. Louis must now contain more than 250,000 inhabitants, or as many as Philadelphia possessed in 1840.

THE FINE ARTS.

The Academy Exhibition.

The post of honor has with propriety been assigned to Professor Schuchle's fine picture of "Esther Denouncing Haman to Ahasuerus," No. 96. Indeed, there is nothing in the exhibition that could be put in competition with this work; and it is gratifying that, in one instance at least, credit has been done to Philadelphia art, and that in the general dearth of works of a high grade, which is the distinguishing feature of this year's exhibition, the Academy should be able to show the public such a valuable addition to the permanent collection as this will be. Professor Schuchle is now in the maturity of his mental powers, and his later efforts, more especially this picture, show such a decided improvement in many important particulars over his earlier works, that we cannot but regret the physical infirmity that many persons would consider an insuperable obstacle in the way of artistic labor of any kind. A partial paralysis renders the operation of painting a slow and tedious process; but Professor Schuchle, in addition to superintending the schools of the Academy during the six months from October to April, has found time during the past year to execute an elaborate work, crowded with figures and full of architectural details, which are certainly wonderful considering the circumstances under which they were produced. The picture shows no falling off in power, and the lines are drawn with a precision, and the delicate minutiae are rendered with a decision and firmness of hand that seem of one, strong, unimpeded, and every enervating and admiring. This work is an order from several gentlemen connected with the Academy of Fine Arts, and the artist has exerted himself to give to the institution a masterpiece which will be worthy of its reputation and a fit subject for the study of future generations of scholars.

The climax of the dramatic story of Esther was judiciously chosen as the subject for illustration, and the canvas gives us a representation of the court of the King's palace, with all the grotesque architectural features which the research of Layard and other explorers has revealed to the modern world. The royal banquet table, with the feast prepared by Esther for the King and the enemy of her race, Haman, is overhung by a crimson canopy which throws a warm glow over the group of richly colored figures beneath. Esther springing from her couch, leans across the table and points with anger and scorn at Haman, who, overwhelmed with surprise, fear, and rage at his unexpected discovery, has sprung to his feet and stands trembling before his antagonist. Ahasuerus, reclining in the shade of the curtain, listens with astonishment to the story of the Queen, and the stern expression of his countenance foretells the doom of the guilty wretch who but a moment before stood so high in his favor. A number of women, eunuchs, soldiers, and servants are grouped about the central figures, and in the distance is seen a portion of the palace, while on the left is a mass of architecture filled with various strange figures in the characteristic Assyrian style of sculpture. The picture is full of elaborate details, and the embroidered table-cloth, the furniture, costumes, gold and silver vessels, and other features, show an immense amount of research and careful study.

As the work of an American artist, this painting will be a valuable acquisition to the Academy, and it is to be hoped that the collection were made a little oftener there would be less cause for complaint about the inaction and inefficiency of an institution which is popularly supposed to exist for the encouragement of American art, but which, to judge by its usual performances, seems rather designed for its discouragement. As is usual, the exhibition is strongest in landscapes, a branch of art in which our American painters have hitherto achieved a much greater success, as a general rule, than they have in figures. Of works of this class, Mr. Thomas Moran contributes the largest number, thirteen in all. Most of these have been exhibited at various times before, and with a few exceptions, the paintings are not altogether favorable specimens of the artist's style. "The Ripening of the Leaf," No. 119, is a beautiful work; and "Dream Land," No. 84, is executed in

pass, showing lines which realize the idea suggested in the title, and brings to mind Dr. Holmes' notion of the "Turner-esque."

"The Bridge and Castle of St. Angelo," No. 184, is perhaps Mr. Moran's best picture; it is very fine in tone and color, and shows fewer eccentricities of manner than most of his other contributions. "The Ruins of the Palace of the Caesars," No. 819, is also entitled to commendation. "The Children of the Mountain," No. 106, as a piece of execution is admirable, but the general effect of the picture is marred by the complication of the lights and shadows, which are thrown together in such a manner as to lose all value. The separate details of this work are finely painted, but upon what theory of composition they are combined, we are unable to comprehend. "The Isle of Serpents," from Longfellow's "Hiawatha," No. 196, is a reproduction in color of one of Mr. Moran's most effective monochromes, but, strange to say, he has contrived in the finished picture to lose nearly all the qualities which gave his first study value; and if we except "A Mountain Stream," No. 190, which would be benefited by a division into two separate pictures, this is the least satisfactory effort of the artist in the exhibition. In addition to his paintings Mr. Moran has contributed half-a-dozen lithographs and charcoal drawings, in which his best artistic qualities are shown to signal advantage. In his management of black and white this artist has probably no superior in the country, and these drawings have an artistic value which is unfortunately absent from some of his more elaborate attempts in color.

Mr. James Hamilton has placed on exhibition seven marine pictures, which do not vary materially from the two or three effects which we are accustomed to see him produce. "Brigantine Shells After a Gale," No. 118, which we noticed some time ago when it was on exhibition at Earle's galleries, is a spirited work, which contains many of Hamilton's excellences. "Moonlight, Atlantic City," No. 26; "Cloudy Morning," No. 163; "Squally Evening, Atlantic City," No. 261; "Moon Rising, Summer Evening," No. 266, are all in his usual grey style, and while there are good effects in all of them, they too much resemble what we have often seen before, to be deserving of special notice. In his management of color, as in his management of light and shadow, interest as they would if the artist studied nature more closely, painted less sketchily, and did not draw quite so much on his imagination. Mr. Hamilton gives us nothing in his yellow style, but he has two good examples of his red style—"Sunset at Sea After a Gale," No. 120, and a subject from Longfellow's translation of Bishop Tegner's "Drapsa," or lament for Balder, the old Norse Apollo or sun-god, which is treated with truly poetical feeling. Both of these pictures have been on exhibition so frequently that the public ought to be well acquainted with their merits. The title of the last named, which is emblazoned on the frame in red and gold, is evidently a misapprehension of the artist's, and it is calculated to create confusion in the minds of the spectators who may not happen to read in Norse mythology. For this, however, Mr. Longfellow is in great part to blame, as he should have given such a title to his translation as would not lead his readers to confound the author of the poem with his subject. The picture is in Mr. Hamilton's best manner, although a clear understanding of the subject would probably have caused a modification of some of the details which are not exactly in accordance with the real meaning of the legend illustrated.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

For additional Special Notices see the Inside Pages.

FOR THE SUMMER.—TO PREVENT sunburn and all discolored and irritating of the skin, use WILBERGERS' DRUG STORE, 233 N. SECOND STREET, Philadelphia, for sale by most of the grocers and druggists.

THE YOUNG MANNERCHOR has kindly volunteered to sing a grand Liberty Chorus, in costume, at the Club Meeting, to be held at the Music on FRIDAY EVENING. The Germania Band is engaged.

In addition to the Speakers already announced, the following distinguished gentlemen will address the meeting: H. RICHIER SWOPE, Esq., SENIOR JOSEPH VALLENTE, SENIOR ENRIQUE PINERO, and the celebrated French Traveller in Africa, PAUL DU CHAILLU. 4 23 31

BARLOW'S INDIGO BLUE IS THE cheapest and best article in the market for bluing clothes.

IT DOES NOT CONTAIN ANY ACID. IT WILL NOT INJURE THE FINEST FABRIC. It is put up in WILBERGERS' DRUG STORE, No. 233 N. SECOND STREET, Philadelphia, and for sale by most of the grocers and druggists. The genuine has both BARLOW'S and WILBERGERS' names on the label; all others are COUNTERFEITS.

BARLOW'S BLUE will color more water than four times the same weight of indigo. 1 27 31

CUSHIONS AND MATTRESSES stuffed with finest hair or feathers are subject to moth, mildew, and dirt. Elastic Sponges are not only a more economical substitute, but is subject to none of these inconveniences, is indestructible, and its purity almost immaculate. 5 20 31

CAPTAIN HARRIS AT CONCERT HALL, CHESNUT STREET, on MONDAY EVENING, April 29th. Admission free. The Republican party specially invited. 4 28 31

WEDDING AND ENGAGEMENT Rings, of solid 18 karat fine gold. QUALITY WARRANTED. A full assortment of sizes always on hand. FARR & BROTHER, Jewelers, 324 West No. 324 CHESNUT STREET, below Fourth. 4 28 31

BATCHELOR'S HAIR DYE.—THIS splendid Hair Dye is the best in the world. It is true and perfect. It is reliable, instantaneously; no disappointment; no ridiculous tints; removes the ill effects of bad dyes; restores the hair soft and beautiful, black or brown. Sold by all Druggists and Perfumers; and properly applied at Batchelor's Wig Factory, No. 18 BOND STREET, New York. 4 27 31

GRANDFATHER'S SUNDAY COAT.

It was of home-made worsted stuff, A genuine stone blue; And Grandfather wore the cloth himself In seventeen ninety-two.

It was not cut on a coat as now, You can buy for a trifle, or more, He had to rise to put it on Before the morning light.

With collar of tremendous size, This venerable coat Rose up against his back of his head, And warmed his neck and throat.

So queer in those peculiar days The fashions did prevail, The hither part of the coat was shaped Much like a swallow's tail.

They kept things long in Grandpa's days, From records it appears, That he wore this most remarkable coat Some fifteen or twenty years.

But coats are nice, and cheaper now, You can buy for a trifle, or more, Better coats than grandfather ever wore, At ROCKHILL & WILSON'S STORE.

Brass Coats with Blue Buttons are all the new go for evening entertainments. Light pairs, of delicate hue and tasteful cut, enable the American citizen of the most moderate means to outshine his Majesty's subjects in the new Court. Rig just inaugurated for his reception.

Everything in the masculine clothes line that a male human can want, for business or pleasure, at prices so far below what our grandparents used to pay, that, if those venerable persons were to call in and see they would open their eyes so wide that their measure could not be taken.

DO YOU WANT THE WORTH OF YOUR MONEY?

THEN BRING YOUR MONEY

TO

ROCKHILL & WILSON'S

Great Brown Stone Clothing Hall,

NOS. 603 AND 605 CHESNUT ST.,

PHILADELPHIA.

FIRE AND BURGLAR PROOF SAFE

CHAMPION SAFES!

UNSUCCESSFUL BURGLARY.

LETTER OF MESSRS. DAVID DOWS & CO.

NEW YORK, APRIL 16, 1869.

HERRING, FARREL & SHERMAN,

No. 251 Broadway.

Gents:—On the night of the 22d ultimo, our store,

No. 603 South Street, was entered, and a desperate attempt made by burglars upon one of your safes in our counting-room.

The key to the safe in which we kept our securities was locked inside of our fire-proof book safe, the doors of which were literally cut to pieces; from this they obtained the key to the other safe and opened it. Fortunately we had one of your Burglar-Proof Bankers' Chests inside, in which our valuables were deposited. This they went to work at with a will, and evidently used up all their time and tools in vain attempts to force it. The night was dark and stormy, and the fact of their knowing where our key was kept shows that their plans were well matured. They tried wedging the door and body of the Chest, and the faithful safe bears evidence of the labor and skill devoted to the work. All was useless, and it is with great satisfaction we report that upon opening it we found our securities all safe, and can therefore cheerfully endorse the Burglar-Proof work recommended by you.

You will please send the new safe purchased by us to our counting-house, and take the old one, to show that some safes are still manufactured worthy of the name.

DAVID DOWS & CO.

FARREL, HERRING & CO.,

CHAMPION SAFES,

NO. 629 CHESNUT STREET,

4 17 31

PHILADELPHIA.

PIANOS, ETC.

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BROS. 1006 CHESNUT STREET.

BRADY'S PIANOS.—ONE AT

White House. Seven First Premiums. Also, McCutcheon, Theodore, Uylers, Esq., and other Distinguished Speakers have been invited to address the meeting.

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Grand Square and Upright

PIANOS.

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ALBRECHT

RIESES & SCHMIDT,

FIRST-CLASS PIANO-FORTES.

Full guarantee and moderate prices.

WAREHOUSES, No. 410 ARCH STREET.

"SCHOMACKER & CO.'S"

GRAND, SQUARE, AND UPRIGHT PIANOS.

WAREHOUSES, No. 1103 CHESNUT STREET.

N. B.—New and Second-hand Pianos to rent.

Tuning and Moving promptly attended to. 4 5 31

FLOUR.

CHOICE FAMILY FLOUR,

For the Trade or at Retail.

EVERY BARREL WARRANTED.

Keystone Flour Mills,

Nos. 19 and 21 GIRARD AVENUE,

East of Front Street.

GREAT BARGAINS

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RICHMOND & CO.'S,

No. 45 SOUTH SECOND STREET,

EAST SIDE.

TO BUILDERS, CONTRACTORS, ETC.—

THE RICHMOND GRANITE COMPANY

have constantly arriving at their extensive new wharf, first

below South Street, Schuylkill, granite of the best quality,

and are prepared to supply the trade by the cargo or single

piece, for buildings, monumental and cemetery work,

etc. etc.

Estimates given for all kinds of work in granite, shipped

direct from the quarries.

Large Platforms, also Dressed Curbing, Belgian Paving

Blocks, Dressed Monument Bases, of all sizes, on hand.

Office of the Company, No. 1708 CHESNUT STREET.

CALL AT AYRE'S SHIRT DEPOT, No. 58 N.

SIXTH STREET, below Arch, and get some of his

IMPROVED SHOULDER STRAP PATTERNS, which

surpass all other Shirts for neatness of fit on the

neck, comfort in the neck, and ease on the shoulders.

Also, Ties, Scarfs, Bows, Gloves, Monkeys, etc., etc.

4 5 31

LADIES' DAY.

SATURDAY OF THIS WEEK,

AT THE

CHESNUT STREET CLOTHING ESTABLISHMENT.

Nos. 818 and 820 CHESNUT STREET.

Our Department of Youths', Boys' and Children's Clothing being now fully organized and stocked with a large assortment of Finest Clothing, selected from the best markets of this country, or made up by ourselves in many new and beautiful styles, we design devoting Saturday of this week to a display of all that is

NOVEL AND MOST FASHIONABLE

In this line, including a great variety of materials and makes.

YOUTHS' SUITS (for young men from fifteen to twenty years) made in the highest styles of Fancy American Cassimeres, English, French, Scotch and German Coatings.

BOYS' SUITS (for lads from six to fifteen years), "Metropolitan Suits," "Harney Jacket Suits," "Vest-Jacket Suits," "Clarendon," "Bismarck" (new styles), "La Perichole," "Sheridan," "Stanley," "Cutaway," and many other styles—plain, neat and genteel—for ordinary wear, or made up more elaborately for dress occasions.

CHILDREN'S SUITS (for little boys from three to seven years), "Garibaldi" Suits in great variety, "Skirt" Suits, "Blouse" Suits, "Prince Imperial," etc. etc. Many designs of cut and trimming quite new.

We cordially invite mothers and others in charge of children to call on SATURDAY of this week and look through this Department. It occupies the large well-lighted rooms on the first floor at the rear of the Dome. Saleswomen as well as Salesmen will be in attendance, and every facility for inspection will be politely accorded.

JOHN WANAMAKER, CLOTHIER.

FREE CUBA.

HAIL TO THE NEW REPUBLIC.

Welcome, Thrice Welcome, Cuba, Among the Nations of the Earth!!!



The dark portion of the Island is in the hands of the Patriots; the lighter portion is still within the grasp of a brutal occupation. Length, 600 miles; average breadth, 65 miles; square miles, 47,500, or 32,000,000 acres; population—Spaniards (including army), 140,000; Americans, 100,000; Cubans, 800,000. Total—White, 1,530,000; negroes, 260,000; slaves, and emancipated, fighting with the Patriots, 80,000. Grand total, 1,700,000. Exports, \$50,000,000. Imports, \$70,000,000. Annual production, \$100,000,000. TAX IS ANNUALLY PAID TO SPAIN, \$22,500,000!!! Ratio of Spaniards to population, 6 per cent.; Ratio of their robbery to value of production, 20 per cent.!

THE PEOPLE OF PHILADELPHIA,

Without DISTINCTION OF PARTY, are invited to assemble at the

ACADEMY OF MUSIC, ON FRIDAY EVENING, AT 8 O'CLOCK,

To express their sympathy for the NOBLE PATRIOTS OF CUBA in their HEROIC STRUGGLE FOR LIBERTY, and to concert measures for securing a more POSITIVE AID AND THE IMMEDIATE RECOGNITION OF THEIR RIGHTS.